



Bexar Wire

San Antonio Radio Club
W5SC



2023, No. 04

April 2024

April Happenings:

- 4/10, AARO Meeting Mamacita's 7PM
- 4/11 SARC, Blanco Barbeque, 7 PM
- 4/12-13, Belton HamExpo Spring
- 4/20 SARC POTA
- 4/26 ROOST Mtng 7
- 4/27 SARC License Testing, Leon Valley
Pubic Library 6425 Evers Rd 78238

Eclipse Action (Jim Neff, WJ4M)



Paul Guido Photo

For some the recent total eclipse was a non-event due to cloud cover. In some areas, the clouds parted long enough to get a good view



Royce Bell, KX7Q and I (WJ4M) set up a station under field day conditions on

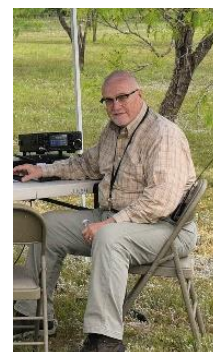
a friend's farm out past Rio Medina. Power was by a small generator, we set up a 6-foot table, chairs, Easy-Up and a BuddiHEX portable hex-beam antenna.

The BuddiHEX ads say you can set the antenna up in 20 minutes. Uh, not so. This was the second time I set it up. The two of us still took nearly a hour and got the 10 meter element wrong. No problem, we

The next meeting, April 11, 2024, will be at 7 PM at Blanco BBQ, 13259 Blanco Rd, San Antonio, TX 78216, (210) 251-2602 . Program: POTA, Keith Hicks KD5JGD

operated on 20 meters only, calling CQ on 14.205 mHz. Other equipment included an ICOM IC-7300 with MFJ 993B auto tuner, a Yaesu power supply, paper for logging, water, snacks and several sharp pencils.

We started around 1 PM and worked through the total eclipse. The cloud cover prevented any view of the eclipse itself. When it got dark Royce, who was logging at the time, had to use the flashlight on his phone to see to write. Afterward, we realized we did not take any photos in the darkness.



RB, KX7Q at the mike



In about an hour we contacted 40 other hams from Puerto Rico to Canada and New York to Northern

California. The beam worked great. Stations we heard at 5/5 reported 5/9 from us. We experienced some QSB and QRN.

One thing we did not get right away was our grid square. Royce finally found it on line and we started reporting it.

Royce had some logging software, but no time to load it into his computer. We plan to send a certificate to those we contacted.

We proved to ourselves we could operate under field conditions and work a wide range of stations. Thanks to our host, Bryan Beck, who provided a great location.

PRESIDENT’S RADIOGRAM

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
04	R		N5IUT		San Antonio, TX		April 2024
TO							

Hello South Texas,

I hope that everyone was able to enjoy the Total Solar Eclipse on Tuesday either visually, via radio or both. I look forward to knowing more on the outcome of all the information that is gathered during the eclipses of 2023 and 2024 and their impact to the F1 and F2 layers of the ionosphere.

On March 23, SARC had a very fun tailgate at the Encino Library. I got to see a lot of club members and many old friends from out of town. Many thanks to those that attended.

Almost every meeting there are people seeking information on getting a ham radio license and others that are newly licensed. Welcome! There are a lot of activities coming up soon.

Belton HamExpo April - 12th and 13th
 Spring POTA Event - April 20th
 SARC Testing - April 27th

Field Day 2024 at Shavano Park

June 22-23, 2024, will be at the City of Shavano Park’s City Hall Complex, 900 Saddletree Court Shavano Park, TX 78231. The City of Shavano Park has been a gracious host since 2002. Their support is sincerely appreciated. Field Day is open and free to the public. Bring your kids, relatives, neighbors, and anyone else who has an interest in ham radio.

Please come out and participate during the upcoming events!

Take care and be safe!

Paul Guido, N5IUT, SARC President

Bexar Wire

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The due date for articles is the **Monday** before the first **Thursday** of the month

Meeting Minutes
7:00 p. m., March 14, 2024
Blanco BBQ, 13259 Blanco Rd., San Antonio, TX 78216

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM//Pledge of Allegiance//Introductions

Presentation: Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW - Winlink

Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting

There being no additions, corrections, or deletions, minutes were approved with change without objection by unanimous consent.

Officer Reports:

President – Paul Guido, N5IUT – Tailgate Information, Eclipse Information

Vice President – Robert Richter, W5ENG – No report.

Secretary – Jack Bannin’s report delivered by Paul Guido, N5IUT – The minutes from club meetings can be found at the w5sc.org website, in the Newsletters section.

Treasurer – Jon April, K15CSK – No Report

Chairman of the Board Report – Harold Fleischer, AE5AS – No report.

Education and Training – Vacant – No report. If interested, contact the club President.

Emergency Communications – David Rice – No report.

Bill Craft, KD2HIQ Webmaster /Membership – As of: 3/9/24

Activities for March

1. Web Site-
 - a. Posted newsletters
 - b. Added how to close social media account to SILENT KEY page
2. Groups.io
 - a. Updated membership list
 - b. Updated calendar
3. Mail chimp- Meeting notice -
4. Twitter
5. Facebook -Meeting notice

MEMBERSHIP

Membership	As of 3/9/2024		
Paid 127	New Members for 2024		
Mil 5	First	Last	Call
Family Members 16	Patrick	Rueckert	KF5MBT
RF-Free 8	Howard	Grimes	
Fee-VE 13	Frank	Amodemu	
ARRL Members 95	Joseph	Silva	
	Anthony	Hamilton	
Total Membership 168	Chuck	Barker	KI5WHN

Notes:

POTA - No report. No point of contact for this. If interested, contact a Board member.

Newsletter Editor – Jimmie Neff – Newsletter distributed and posted to website on March 13, 2024. Invited members to contribute information, photos, and stories for the newsletter. Deadline is Monday prior to the meeting.

Field Day – Jon April:

Finance and Review – No Report

JOTA – No report.

Centennial Committee – Tom O’Brien AB5XZ – Souvenirs (patches, challenge coins, pins) from the club’s 2019 centennial year are still available.

Radio Fiesta – Aubrey Mason –

VE Team – Benny Martinez, NU5P – Not present. Next testing session: April 27, 2024

Silent Key Committee – Rodney Brown, AA5RB

Monthly Activities –

Executive – No report.

Election Committee – Paul Guido, N5IUT – No report.

Scholarship Committee – No report
Old Business (Motions carried over from previous meetings) – None.

New Business – None

Announcements – None

Meeting Adjourned @ 8:35 PM

FREE ON-LINE AMATEUR RADIO OPERATING CLASS

A free, weekly, 3-hour Amateur Radio Operating Class on Zoom began on Thursday April 4 and run through June 20 at 6:30 PM Eastern time. The presenters will be various experienced folks in the various subjects.

A detailed syllabus will be published before the classes begin. Attend them all, or any that you like, but you must register for the classes. To receive registration information, contact Rol Anders, K3RA, at roland.anders@com-cast.net. (Note, it is not too late to register)

Subjects will include:

- All About Operating--A general Introduction
- Amateur Radio Organizations—Local to International
- Ham Radio Awards
- DXing-History and Tips from the Experts
- QSLing-How to get that needed card for DXCC or WAS
- VHF/UHF Weak Signal Work and “Roving”
- Image Operating—Slow Scan and Fast Scan TV
- Remote Station control over internet
- Learning CW in the no-code era
- Digital Modes—From RTTY to FT8 and beyond
- Contesting—How to get started, tips for the beginner and intermediated contester
- Logging Software—What’s available, how to use
- Propagation—A general intro to HF Propagation
- Amateur Satellites—How to get started
- Portable (backpacking) operation—Tips from an expert
- Setting Up a Modern (or not so modern) HF Station
- Lightning Protection and Grounding
- Traffic Handling
- Public Service, Emergency Communications

Tailgate March 23, 2024

The tailgate at Encino Park Library went off without a hitch. We were able to donate \$100 to the Encino Park Friends of the Library thanks to the donations of the Tailgaters.

We had participants from as far away as Corpus Christi who heard about us on the SADRC net, thanks to Doug, N8IQT.

Richard, KI5ZZE helped Bill, KD2HIQ with the event. The turnout was fairly good about 20 vendors and lots of lookers and buyers.

The weather started out cooler then warmed up about 11am.



So start gathering your treasures for the next tailgate, September 21st, 2024

Did you know?

The ARRL South Texas Section has a web site. <https://www.arrlstx.org/index.php>

STX ARES has a PUBLIC email group on Groups.io at; <https://stxares.groups.io>
Membership is free and open to all hams, ARES members, and other EmComm members to join.

The 2024 Robert A. Rodriguez Scholarship Fundraiser is here! 5 chances to win hot selling Yaesu Radios. Only 400 tickets sold @ \$25 each. Drawing is November 14, 2024 at the club meeting.

To purchase a ticket: Mail check to: San Antonio Radio Club PO Box: 34263 San Antonio, TX 78265-4263 Ticket will be mailed to you or PayPal treasurer@w5sc.org be sure to include your name, phone # & call sign. 210-642-9391 or Treasurer @w5sc.org. For more info see the club web page at: w5sc.org



Volunteer Examiners at Work



The next testing session will be April 22 at 12:00 .at the Leon Valley Public Library, 6425 Evers RD, Leon Valley, TX 78238. Check the web page for more information about testing sessions. Pre-register at HamTest@w5sc.org . If you plan to test, be sure to pre-register.

From Bennie Martinez, NU5P VE Team Lead:



SARC has had a Groups.io. Its name is saradioclub.

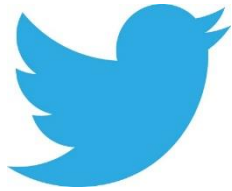
If you haven't signed up for group.io, you should. Groups.io is our primary email messaging method to all club members. It is FREE for all members.

Several members have asked where are the notices, schedules and codes for Zoom meetings?

1. The groups.io calendar has a schedule of Zoom meetings and access codes.
2. The calendar can be accessed directly from the club web site <https://w5sc.org/events-calendar/> NOTE: it is the same groups.io calendar.

The saradioclub Group.io is being used to publicize SARC business meetings. It can be used for other things like promotion of VEC testing and classes. Members of the saradioclub Group.io can and have asked each other technical questions or sought assistance.

The saradioclub Group.io is a closed group. To become a member, go to saradioclub.groups.io. (You may need to have a Groups.io account.) You will then need to select *Apply for membership in this group*. This generates a message. SARC members can expect approval to join the saradioclub Group.io in probably less than 24 hours.



Reminder: there are two active X (Twitter) accounts for the San Antonio Radio Club. They are @SARadioClub and @ARadioFiesta.

The @SARadioClub is being used to publicize SARC meetings. It can be used for other things like promotion of VEC testing and classes.

When work again commences the @ARadioFiesta will be used.

SARC members are encouraged to follow both Twitter accounts.

SARC Facebook



There is a San Antonio Radio Club – SARC (@saradioclub) Facebook Page.

The newsletter editor is making posts about SARC meetings and other activities. Any Officer, Committee Chairperson, or member who believes that they have information that should be posted to this page should contact the newsletter editor using the contact information for the newsletter editor on page 2 of this newsletter.

SARC members are encouraged to follow this Facebook Pa

SARC SLACK



There is a San Antonio Radio Club Slack team – w5sc.slack.com.

Slack teams are meant to foster communication between team members. Paul Guido, N5IUT, has established the w5sc.slack.com team for SARC. He has also established some channels. Think of the channels as topical areas.

To join send an email to Paul Guido, N5IUT, at radioteacher@gmail.com. In actuality, any team member already a part of the w5sc.slack.com can invite you, but Paul is known to be on it.

JOTA

Jamboree-on-the-Air, or JOTA, is the largest Scouting event in the world. It is held annually on the third full weekend in October.

JOTA uses amateur radio to link Scouts and hams around the world, around the nation, and in your own community. JOTA 2023 was held at McGimsey Scout Park Cub Pavilion 10810 Wedgewood Dr, Castle Hills, TX 78213.

. Anyone wanting to operate a station next year need to do the BSA Youth protection Training (YPT) and complete BSA Health forms.

<https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/>

Amateur Radio License Classes

For more information, contact:
David Finell, N7LRY
Instructor

SARC has a website:

w5sc.org

Webmaster: Bill Craft KD2HIQ
Billc851@gmail.com
210-570-0335

SARC Meeting Dates for 2024

January 11, 2024
February 8, 2024
March 14, 2024
April 11, 2024
May 8, 2024
June 13, 2024
July 11, 2024
August 8, 2024
September 12, 2024
October 10, 2024
November 14, 2024
December – No meeting

Meetings are normally held at Blanco BBQ, 13259 Blanco Rd, San Antonio, TX 78216 at 7:00 p. m. Room is available at 6:00 p. m. for supper

Radio Fiesta 2024

Radio Fiesta 2024 will be at Schertz Civic Center on July 19/20. Hours are 1-8PM Friday, 8AM to 2 PM Saturday with 0700 setup for vendors and tailgaters. Tickets are \$13 for 2 days pre-event, \$15 at the door. Children, scouts, Military and first responders in uniform free. Students with ID, \$10. Tables are \$25. The 2-day event features seminars and license testing on Saturday., See details at: <https://w5sc.org/radio-fiesta-2024-information>

Field Day 2024

Field Day exercise, June 27 – 28 at the City of Shavano Park city hall for the twenty first year. *Where SARC proves they are an eating group with a radio problem.* Start thinking about Field Day 2024!.

License Testing Dates for 2024

SARC does all of its licensing testing as a part of ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) organization so all of the Volunteer Examiners in SARC are duly authorized Volunteer Examiners of ARRL's VEC.

Register at HamTest@w5sc.org
Other info at W5SC.org click "Getting Started" then "Testing."

Emergency Communications

If you are interested in emergency communications, contact:

Ned Lee, KG5US
RACES Bexar County
210-334-3481/210-391-8258

Daniel Rice, NB5K
ARES Bexar County EC 210-347-8623